Washington Sentinel.

WM. M. OVERTON, CH. MAURICE SMITH, AND BEVERLEY TUCKER.

CITY OF WASHINGTON.

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George W. Mearson is our authorized agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements, in Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria.

COMMUNICATIONS.

So many communications are sent to us which assume to be of public interest and concernment, but which in to be of public interest and contention, reality are designed to promote purely private views and interests, that we are compelled to lay down certain rules in regard to them. Were we to surrender our columns to all such communications, we would really have no room for other articles and for items of news. We are disposed to accommodate all that we can, but we must first accomnodate ourselves an our subscribers. The advocacy and furtherance of private schemes is not one of the objects of the Sentinel. We desire that to be distinctly understood. Where articles and communications treat of matters of public utility, and are of general interest, it will afford us pleasure to publish them. We shall, however, exercise our own discretion in regard to them. Our rules in future will be as follows: If anything should appear in our paper that does injustice and wrong to any person, he will be allowed the privilege of our columns for defence.

In all other cases, (except when we publish spontane ously,) we shall in future insert such articles and comnications as advertisements, and charged accordingly.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate, yesterday, the Nebraska bill was opposed by Mr. Smith, who had not concluded his remarks when the Senate adjourned. In the House of Representatives all the amendments to the deficiency appropriation bill were concurred in, and the bill afterwards was rejected.

EFFORTS TO PRODUCE POPULAR

The Detroit Free Press rebukes in severe terms the efforts made by some of the presses of the country, and their Washington correspondents, to create excitement in the public mind in relation to the Nebraska bill. Nothing would more delight the abolitionists and freesoilers than to see the masses of the people lashed into a furious and frenzied excitement. It is not by calm reasoning and quiet conviction that their wicked purposes can be achieved. They can only succeed by appeals to fanaticism; hence they always seek to get up a wild agitation, a popular tempest, that they may rideon the whirlwind, and draw along after them those weak and foolish men whose morbid sensensibilities and sickly sympathies can be played upon. The longer the question is left undecided the better will they be pleased. The longer it is kept before the Senate and the House of Representatives, and the more it is discussed, the more will their mischievous objects be promoted. We do not doubt that they will flood the two houses of Congress with their petitions, remonstrances, and frantic appeals. We do not doubt that, if time is allowed them, they will present a complete and compact organization throughout the country, and employ every kind of agency to impress the country with the idea that they are powerful in numbers and in strength.

It is different with the friends of the bill throughout the country. They will not take the trouble to get up petitions and memorials. They will be content with quiet conviction and calm and silent effort. When made to believe that popular commotions and agitations tend to promote the public good, then, and not till then, can we deem it wise to procrastinate the decision of this bill.

With the Detroit Free Press, we believe that the country is now in repose; but we also believe that, if the opponents of the Nebraska bill are permitted to have their way, they will kindle the fires of strife and agitation. We subjoin the following extract from the Free Press :

"Now the country was never calmer than at this moment, and Congress is not going to do anything to disturb that calmness. It can't be disturbed. Neither whig bellowing nor abolition howling can do it. Nothing can do it, it the democratic majority in the Senate and House but do their duty. No action, short of an abandonment by Congress of the fixed principles of the democratic party, can produce agitation among the masses of the people.

The great prevailing public sentiment of the north is sound on the slavery question. Never, since the adoption of the Constitution, has it been more sound or better settled. The compromise measures of 1850 have not only acquiesced in, but they have been approved; and so long as they are preserved in violate; so long as their principles are sus-tained by the legislation of Congress; the people of the north will be satisfied. It will only be a departure from these principles that can excite indignation, not loud, but deep.

"And of all the northern States, not one i sounder than Michigan. We believe, to-day, could the plan of organizing Nebraska and Kansas, proposed by the Senate Committee on Territories, be submitted to the democracy of this State, that ninety-nine out of every one hundred votes would be for approval. principle of congressional non-intervention in the domestic affairs of the States and Territories is strongly intrenched in the popular heart. The battle on that principle has been fought, and never was victory more nobly or more thoroughly won.

"Mr. Douglas's bill may not be a perfect bill; it may need amendments. But the grand principle embraced in it—that of leaving the people of Nebraska, and of all other territories, to take care of their own local affairs-is right; and to that principle the democracy of Michigan and Union are committed, and they will adhere to it with firm and unvielding tenacity."

We are pleased to see that the Richmone Bulletin, a neutral paper, but whig in its proclivities, has declared itself in favor of the Ne braska bill. It says:

"A northern senator takes the initiative in the matter, and it is believed that a very large number of northern representatives are ready to support his movement. Under these circumstances, throwing out of view altogether the question whether the compromise of 1850 su-perseded that of 1820, the south cannot be justly charged with bad faith, in going for the abrogation of a restriction which she believes to be unjust and unconstitutional, and which the north itself was willing to abolish."

Beath of an Actor.-Charles A. Adams, for merly of Boston, but of late attached to the National theatre, of this city, died yesterday morning, at the Washington Jafirmary, of a disease of time, the extraordinary cry raised, even by a the liver.

HOW STANDS THE PRESS ON THE NEBRASKA QUESTION :

The Albany Atlas, of the 8th inst., gives a list of the papers of New York that have declared for and against the Nebraska bill. It says that but two soft presses of the entire array have given to the measure the slightest countenance or support. It asserts that the national democratic presses, on the other hand, FEBRUARY 10, 1854 have given in their unanimous adhesion to those great democratic principles of self-govvernment and congressional non-interference. which the proposition is understood to recognise. The Argus says :

"For the sake of showing this marked and significant variance of sentiment, we give the following classification of those of our exchanges lying at present before us. Although it does not include all the freesoil presses in the State which have expressed themselves against the measure, it does include, as we believe, every one of the "soft" concerns which has favored it

Democratic presses supporting the Nebraska bill. Batavia Times, Binghampton Democra Monticello Watchman Ulster Democrat, Goshen Republican, Tri-States Union, Dutchess Democrat, Schenectady Reflector, Utica Gazette, Syracuse Republican, Rochester Advertiser, Buffalo Courier, Buffalo Courier, Buffalo Evening Post, N. Y. National Democr Dutchess Democrat, Hudson Gazette, Sandy Hill Herald, Malone Jeffersonian, Glen's Falls Republican Jefferson County Demo Eastern State Journal. A. Y. National Democra Albany Argus, Ellicottville Republican, Silver Creek Gazette, Albion Times, Hornellsville Tribune, Addison Democrat, opposing the Nebraska bill.

NONE. Rochester Union, Buffalo Republic, St. Lawrence Republican, Penn Yan Democrat, Seneca Observer. Albany Atlas, Troy Times, Utica Observer, Preesoil and coalition presses endorsing the Nebrasko Keeseville Gazette. Monticello Union.

" Will the Washington Union please copy? Will it dare show the south the complexion of the men into whose hands every appointment has been surrendered, upon whom the title of administration party' has been conferred by authority,' and whom the democracy of lew York have been bidden to follow as their leaders and teachers in democratic faith?

We are sorry, but not at all surprised, to see by the telegraphic despatches from Albany, that the popular branch of the legislature of New York has passed, by a vote of 80 to 27, resolutions of opposition to the Nebraska bill. From the political complexion of that body, however, such resolutions will take no one by surprise. It is well known that, from the divisions in the party in New York, the freesoil whigs have a majority in the legislature. Their resolutions, we feel assured, therefore, do not express the sentiments of the people of New York, and should have no influence anywhere. They are merely the expression of the well-known sentiments of a miserable organization, which owes its position, not to any strength of its own, but to an unfortunate division of the great democratic party of that

THE TWO INTELLIGENCERS

Although much pained at the course of the National Intelligencer in throwing the weight of its influence against the Nebraska bill, we are not altogether without consolation. Its namesake, the Petersburg Intelligencer, a whig paper, is as true as steel. It has wisely and nobly risen above all mere party considerations, and declared itself warmly in favor of the bill now before the Senate. It chides our neighbor for taking the course it has thought proper to pursue. It does more. It answers place more faith in the stability of our republications than to believe it depends more. the article in Monday's Intelligencer, and anbelow:

"THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER ON THE NE BRASKA BILL.—The old saving that 'there is no telling what a day may bring forth' has been forcibly brought to our mind by the appearance in the National Intelligencer of Monday of its leading editorial article. This venerable and valuable journal has, contrary to our expectation, come out against the Nebraska bill and taken its position alongside of Benton, Chase, Sumner, and the rest of the freesoil and abolition opponents of the south. We have rarely seen, in an important political crisis, the course of the Intelligencer so feebly sustained by argument as in the present case. We speak with entire respect when we say that, in the article which we are noticing, the editors fall very short of doing justice to themselves; for they have heretofore generally signalized them-selves in the discussion of a great issue by their power of reasoning and felicity of illus-

"We have read with care what they have written in the way of exception to the Nebraska bill, and we are constrained to express our gratification at finding in their words nothing to weaken or shake the opinion which we have after mature consideration arrived at in favor of the proposed measure. We regret that the Intelligencer has taken the attitude which i announces: but we cannot follow its example for it is our sincere belief that, let Judge Doug las's motives be what they may, his proposition about the Missouri compromise involves not a particle of violated faith, contains not a syllable proposing to abrogate a living 'COMPACT. There is in it no 'nullification of a solemn covenant between the United States and the State of Missouri;' for the very bill itself expressly says that the Missouri act of 1820 ' was SUPER SEDED BY THE ACTS OF 1850,' and it is upon this assumption, or rather this FACT, that Judge Douglas proceeds to declare the 'superseded law 'inoperative.' Now, the only question to be considered is, whether or not the compromise of 1850 did actually or virtually repea that of 1820. If it did, then is the act of 1820 as we contend it is, null, void, and of no force in another word, it is 'inoperative,' without the need of any formal declaration from Congress to that effect. We will not at present go again into a discussion of the affirmative of the above proposition, holding, as we do, that either the old compromise was extinguished by the new or that the latter is entirely misrepresented when it is called 'A FINAL SETTLEMENT IN PRIN-OPPLE AND SUBSTANCE' of the whole controversy about slavery. It was characterized in these precise terms by Mr. Fillmore, who APPROVED it. It has been so recognised by the present head of the nation, and by every eminent national whig and democrat. Its purpose was avowedly to terminate fully and forever the unfortunate excitements, which were periodically harrassing Congress and the country, growing out of freesoil and abolition agitations and it was intended and expected by all its advocates to cover the whole ground, so far as the

"We think that we are amply sustained by the records of the memorable session of 1849-'50, and by the course of events since, in this statement of the matter. It has been the steady and earnest object of every friend of the new compromise, from the day of its passage to the introduction of the Nebraska bill, to giv it a paramount, supreme authority in its pro-vince of operation; and we hear now for the first time, to our astonishment, that an enactment which was framed and passed amidst the fierce elements of a strife that for the second time in the history of the government threatened an extreme issue—an enactment which was designed and calculated to close finally and perpetually the angry contentions between the north and the south, of which the slavery subject was so fruitful—we hear now, for the first

FUTURE was concerned.

the official language used by Mr. Fillmore, when he spoke of the acts of 1850 as 'a final settlement, in principle and substance' of the whole question. Surely words like these embrace something more than mere empty notions. When we read about the 'principle' and 'substance' of a great controversy, and of a final settlement of it by the highest power of the land, we certainly should not interpret such phraseology as conveying the idea of a subornate, incomplete, or temporary arrangement. The only consistent view that can be taken of a law so spoken of is, that it operates supremewithin its prescribed limits; and those limits, n the present case, comprise the whole subject f slavery in its connexion with the Territories, and with the admission of new States into

the Union. "If we are in error in this our understanding of the compromise of 1850, then it is but a very indifferent specimen of wise, comprehensive, and efficient legislation. It does not meet and cover the case. It cries peace when there is no peace, and is utterly destitute of the features of finality which have been so loudly ascribed to it. And if it be not final, of what real value is it to the country? The Missouri compromise was tried. It allayed agitation for season, but fanaticism seized the first favorable opportunity that offered afterwards for rekindling the flames of 1820. The freesoilers and abolitionists, animated by the very same spirit which stirred up their violent resistance the admission of Missouri, revived the troubles and perils which it was thought had been ended by the law of 1820, and, in fact, repudiated that law itself, by opposing its ex-tension to the Pacific, and by foisting the Wilmot proviso into the Oregon bill. A new compact' thus became necessary, and accordngly a new one was framed, adopted, and declared to be a final settlement in principle and in substance of the question out of which it grew-the very same question out of which the aw of 1850 was generated, viz: the question slavery in the territories. And yet, in view of all this, the National Intelligencer denies the supremacy and finality of the compromise of 1850; maintaining that the 'compact' of 1820 is still in force, and too solemn and sacred a 'covenant' to be put aside for that equally olemn and sacred one, the covenant of 1850.

The Kenosha (Wisconsin) Democre hus speaks of the Nebraska bill:

"A person would be led to suppose that there really was some awful wickedness, some deep iniquity, contained in this bill. Yet what are the facts in this case? The bill simply reaffirms principles as to the action to be taken by Congress in relation to slavery in the Territories. which have received the sanction of the greatest and best minds in the nation. It proposes that Congress snall have nothing to do with the question whatever, and that it be left with the cople of the Territories to take such action upon the subject as they please. Is there anything in all this to justify in the least any such gloomy forebodings as to the 'dissolution of the Union' and the downfall and destruction of the republic in crime and blood?' We trust not. It goes back to the very basis of our institutions. and affirms the right as well as places confidence in the ability of the people to make their own local laws and regulations. The opposite doctrine to this is downright tyranny, and nothing else. Congress has no constitutional power to meddle with the local institutions of the States; and, if not of the States, why of the Territories? To restrict the powers of the people in the Territories to permit or inhibit slavery, as they may choose when seeking admission into the Union. is not one of the rules and regulations 'need can institutions than to believe it depends upon n our Territories.

The Jefferson (Missouri) Examiner says: "The Nebraska territorial bill, recently introuced into Congress by Judge Douglas, is reeived with unlimited favor by the democratic party of the whole nation, and by all the sound whigs in the country everywhere.'

The national democratic standing com mittee, of King's county, New York, have adopted the following preamble and resolutions: "Whereas the Congress of the United States has under consideration the subject of the or-ganization of the Territory of Nebrasky, wherey the question of slavery may again be opened; erefore be it further

"Resolved, (as a sense of this committee.) That the question of slavery in said territory should be left to be determined by the people he new territory to all parts of the Union.

"Resolved, That copies of the foregoing res-M. Tweed, representatives in Congress.'

COURT GOSSIP.

en. The first thing a child learns, when it near the residence of royalty.

It is a characteristic of the English press to levoted to such things as the dress that lady

cometimes see miserable parasites and fawning sycophants. It is, however, to be hoped, that such people and such presses will continue to be rather exceptions to, than exponents of, a

etween the unattended and unannounced way Queen of England. In illustration of these remarks, we give below an article from the London Chronicle of January 20th, which the lover of court gossip cannot fail to relish:

"COURT CIRCULAR. WINDSOR, January 19. A dramatic performance took place this even-ing in the castle. The following royal and distinguished circle had the honor of receiving invitations to dine with her majesty: Her royal highness the Duchess of Kent, his excellency

gencer, that this enactment, this compromise of the French ambassador and the Countess Wa-1850, was, after all, no settlement of the question, for that the Missouri 'compact' is still in force—still a solemn, sacred, and living 'covenant.' If the Intelligencer is right, we should like to be informed what is meant by bury, the Earl and Countess of Delaware and Lady Arabella West, Viscount Canning, Lord Ernest Bruce, the Right Hon. Sidney and Mrs. Herbert, the Right Hon. Spencer and Mrs. Walpole, and Major General Wetherall.

"An evening party was also honored with invitations to witness the performance, and consisted of the Belgian minister and Madame Van de Weyer; Lady Frances Bruce; Lady Lady Caroline and Miss Barrington; the Ladies Molyneux; Colonel, the Hon. C., and Mrs. Grey; Colonel, the Hon. C. B., and Miss Phipps; Captain, the Hon. D., and Lady Elizabeth De Ros; Sir George and Lady Couper; Miss and Mr. R. Couper; Mr. and Lady Sophia Tower; the Rev. W. and Mrs. Canning; Colonel Hall, (commanding officer,) and Lieutenant Levett and Vis-count Elmley, (of the 1st Life Guards;) Lieu-tenant Colonel Sir C. Hamilton (commanding officer,) and Captain Hon. R. Charteris and Captain Paget, (of the 2d battallion of the Scots Fusilier Guards;) Mrs. and Miss Bathurst Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Glover, and the Baroness de

"Her majesty the Queen and his royal highness Prince Albert, entered the Rubens om at eight o'clock, accompanied by their royal highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, the dinner and evening company, and the ladies and gentlemen in

"The Queen and Prince and the illustrion circle being seated, the performance immediately commenced, and consisted of Tobin's comedy (compressed into three acts) of *The* Honey-moon, and a farce, in one act, by Mr. Mark Lemon, entitled The Camp at Chobham; and the parts were filled according to the fol lowing programme: [Omitted.] Refreshments were served in the throne

"The Queen, accompanied by the Countess Walewska and the Marchioness of Westminminster, attended by Viscountess Canning, walked in the Home park this morning, and took a carriage drive.

"His royal highness Prince Albert, accompa-

nied by the Duke of Newcastle, Viscount Canning, and the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, went out shooting, attended by Colonel Wylde.
"The dinner party yesterday included her royal highness of Kent, the French ambassador and the Countess Walewska, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis and Marchioness of Westninster and Lady Agnes Grosvenor, the Earl and Countess of Salisbury, the lady in waiting to the Duchess of Kent, the Baroness de Speth,

iscount Canning, Lord Ernest Bruce, the

Right Hon. Sidney and Mrs. Herbert, the Right Hon. Spencer and Mrs. Walpole, Major eneral Wetherall, and Mr. Gibbs. The band of the 1st life guards attended in the castle during dinner, and performed the following compositions:

March, 'Sultan.'......Donizetti. Overture, 'Struensee'....Meyerbeer. Walzer, 'Sylvan''...Tinney. Selection, La Gazza La-

March, 'Feiza Baari.' Rossini. Galop, 'Masquerade

(Corsican Brothers)...Prasca.
Polka, 'Coral Cave'.....Wellington Guernsey. "Her majesty's private band afterwards at

tended. "A deputation from the authorities of Eton college had an interview yesterday with the eneral board of health, at their offices, Whitehall. The deputation consisted of the provost, the Rev. Dr. Hawirey; the Rev. Dr. Goodford head master of the college; the Rev. T. Carter; and Messrs. Stevens and Williams.

'The Right Hon, Henry Goulburn had an inerview with Viscount Palmerston yesterday at the home-office. "The chancellor of the exchequer had a din-

ner party yesterday at his residence in Downng street. The company included the Earl of Aberdeen, the Chevalier Bunsen, Prussian minister, Lord Elcho, Lord Lyttelton, Sir Robert H. Inglis, Sir Stafford Northcote, the Hon. Arthur Gordon, the Hon. Francis Lawley, and Mr. Laciata.

"Despatches were sent from the colonialoffice yesterday to the governors of Hong-kong

From the Wheeling (Va.) Argus. Nebraska and Kansas.

After deliberation, Judge Douglas has re odelled the Nebraska bill first reported to the Senate, and introduced some new features. The last bill contains all the pro visions for the application of the fugitive slave law to the Territory, and also provides that the people of the States, when they ask for admittance into the Union, shall have the power of establishing the institution of thereof, and that the democratic party will slavery or not, as in their judgment may seem permit no views of a sectional character to best. The new features of the bill consist in sterfere in the settlement of that question, the division of the territory into two parts, one and will adhere to those national principles of which is to retain the name of Nebraska which accord equal rights and privileges in and the other to be called Kansas, and the repeal of the Missouri compromise, so far as it extends to slavery in the Territory. The first olutions be transmitted to Hon. Thomas W. bill, without expressly so declaring, would have Cumming, Hon. James Maurice, and Hon. Wm. in effect repealed the law of 1820, which entirely excluded slavery from all territory north of the prescribed latitude, and this last does only expressly what the first did impliedly Everybody loves a bit of gossip. It is the Believing this, we had no hesitancy in giving pesetting weakness of men, women, and child- our sanction to the bill as originally reported Now we cannot object to giving our sanction begins to prattle, is to gossip, particularly if contained in it will challenge the approbation t be a female child. Those who go to rustic of all at the south, without distinction of party dances, to fairs, to the circus, to the theatre, to church even, go to observe, and come away to gossip. One meets with pleasant gossip in there will be opposition to it. There is opposition to it. There is opposition to it; and, so long as such men as Giddings, merican papers sometimes; but to find it in Gerrit Smith, and Seward exist, there always its most copious details, we have to look into court journals and other newspapers published near the residence of royalty.

will be opposition to anything of the kind. These agitators are ever ready to do mischief, when opportunity affords. Troublous times may be again expected.

For this the south must be prepared. While notice and to praise everything appertaining to their sovereign and nobility, from the making to tinue the acts of 1850 in all their extent, not of a great treaty even to the curl of a moustache or the color of a cravat. They sometimes carry this boot-licking propensity to the are to be fought over again, let it be done mansickening point. Whole columns are frequently fully. Aggressions on our rights must be redevoted to such things as the dress that lady sisted to the utmost. No man, with a true southern heart beating in his breast, will shrink a. wore to Lord B.'s ball, and how Lord B. decoured an apple and threw away the core. It tutions with which he has been raised, to which is really refreshing to turn from these things he is accustomed, and which he has received and look at the independence and the manliness with which public men and measures are nativity, no force, however powerful, will be nativity, no force, however powerful, will be able to make him flinch from his duty in their Yet even here, where men are free and defence. The old enemies, Wilmot provisoism hould worship none but their Maker, we and freesoilism will again have to be met and vanquished. Their friends, so far as professions go, have forsaken them in great numbers, and oined the friends of State rights. Whether they will return to their idols and worship at their former shrines or remain constant to the atter faith, remains yet to be proved. This is There is a striking and a beautiful contrast to the test the sincerity of professions made when the subject of slavery was considered out in which the President of the United States visits public gatherings, and the parade and noise that is made over every movement of the Orecz of Farales I. If they prove insincere, their venality will be open to the condemnation of the world, and their hypocrisy a laughing-stock for the nation. Then it depends entirely upon the quoudam freesoilers whether another sea of trouble and nationa whether another sea of troube and actual agitation is to be gone through with. If the great numbers who have renounced their heresies have been honest and actuated by proper sections and actuated by proper sections are not here serious is to be feared. The notives, nothing serious is to be feared. few remaining can do no great injury by them-selves, but if their former associates return to and join them, then the perilous times of 1850 will again be witnessed, and result in irremeJAPAN.

The following elaborate and well-written article is the first of a series, written by an officer of the United States navy, who lately arrived in this city from the Japan squadron.

It is the embodiment of a journal during his stay on that station, and will be read with interest at the present time, when the result of Commodore Perry's mission remains in sus-

Japan-Its Government. We may look to a government, its forms, and

the rights conceded thereto, as an index of the people who have established it.

Japan affords a spectacle different from any thing history has yet brought down to us; holds to our gaze political relations, unique, wonder ful, and anomalous. Unlike European nations, no feudal system has established tween individuals; still more unlike the Asiatic, the debasing influences of caste have never cramped their energies. Unlike any other nation, they stand alone, secluded, and flourishing, under a form of government peculiarly their

This government is a pure despotism; not the despotism of man, but despotism inherent upon the infallibility of the law. Like the Jews, divine laws have been given to them, and an unhesitating and uncompromising obedience is created; but, unlike that scattered and wandering people, dispersed throughout every part of the globe, the Japanese are on the other extreme of unity, and isolated from mankind. Let us contemplate this strange government, passing by its supposed fabulous origin, as it now exists, and in the full and vigorous adaptation of the system to the wants of the governed.

The first feature in the government is the Mikado, or emperor, of divine origin. For ages he has ruled Japan; but his sacred character, being high priest as well as Mikado, preventing him from appearing before the people, a Tiogoon, or grand vizier, became his deputy. These gradually, like the mayors of the palace in the times of the emperors of France and Germany, usurped all power, though still yielding the semblance of respect and obedience to

the Mikado as the source of their authority. But, as a check upon the Tiogoon. exists a council of peculiar powers, that prevents him from violating the established laws. These are promulgated in the name of the Mikado, and become at once absolute; they are posted up throughout the empire, where all, even the lowest, cannot fail to see them ; and once infringed, punishment invariably follows. No extenuating circumstances are considered palliative. The law and punishment go together; they cannot be separated; and the infringement of the one brings with it the execution of the other. It might naturally be supposed that, where the Tiogoon thus possessed all visible power, he might enact any law in the name of the Mikado, and, where such absolute and uncompromising obedience followed there would be no limit to his authority; but this is checked by the peculiar relations exist-ing between himself and the council.

Should the Tiogoon propose a law, it is first referred to this council; if approved, then submitted to the Mikado; and, if also approved by him, it is promulgated in his name. But should the council disapprove, it is referred to the three next of kin to the Tiogoon; and if they also disapprove, the Tiogoon is forced to abdicate, and the next of kin succeeds him. But if, on the contrary, the three kinsmen side with the Tiogoon, no resource is left to the council but the Harakiri* Thus every bar to nnovation has been established. Government been formed upon this basis; for where a difference of opinion carries with it such terrible consequences, there can be but little encouragement for experiments. Even in the exclusion of foreigners, we behold this principle. It has become a law; and though the people exhibit great apparent anxiety for intercourse, and with avidity seize hold of every opportunity of informing themselves of our man ners, customs, and progress in the arts and sciences, yet further they dare not proceed. The gate to innovation is closed with

tine fetters. Independent of the authority of the Mikado Tiogoon, and council, there are the nobles from the prince of a province to those of in-ferior degree, who fill the various positions of governors of towns, cities, and the military grades. These, from the burdensome and often ruinous ceremonial of the court, and a system of espionage which pervades every portion of the empire, from the highest to the lowest, are rendered tributary to and dependent upon the Tiogoon. A notice that he will call upon some wealthy prince will reduce him to poverty. He cannot decline the honor; for, once in formed, the law, despotic and unyielding, pre-scribes the ceremonial, every minutia of which

Of such singular and anomalous materials have this strange people formed for themselves a government, and live apparently happy and contented. What can we call this govern By what name shall we designate it? Alike pinding upon all, the law never can be infringed by the highest or lowest without punshment; and the enactment of laws is vided for by a system of terrible responsibility, which cannot fail to make men consider long and deliberately before they propose them. Thus, though despotic and absolute, since all are equally bound to submit, the law equally protects and punishes all. It is independent of he reigning power; he cannot change it. It

History affords no name for this strange pectacle. It is the perfection of a system aving for its object the attainment of ends and objects never contemplated by any other na-tion upon the face of the earth—entire and total eclusion from all intercourse with mankind. Every bar, every check, is for the purpose of reventing innovation. This is the government, pervades every department; and yet this is the obstacle the expedition to Japan

s designed to remove! Can success be antici-The small province of Paraguay, under the ule of Dr. Francia, remained a sealed country to the world for nearly half a century. But this, arising from the despotism of man, did not exist longer than the authority which estab-lished it. Upon its removal, the province sprung from the obscurity to which he had doomed it, and eagerly sought communication with other nations. This isolated instance bears no anaogy to the seclusion of millions of human be ings for centuries from all intercourse with other nations, and we may search in vain the records of history for an anomaly like the one

under consideration.

The Jews alone hold within themselves this germ of unity, which has preserved them separate and distinct as a people, amid the various and multifarious concerns of life. Through all the changes of governments, overthrow of empires and kingdoms, establishment and downfall of republics, persecutions and the suffering of every evil incident to the throes and agonies of convulsed nations, and their isolation as a people of no visible nationality, they have adhered to the divine laws of their fathers, and have, in their bondage and isolation, scorned amalgamation with the rest of mankind. Under the government of God's word, they wander over the face of the earth, now mingling both socially and politically with all, yet even in the freedom of unreserved intercourse still preserving their unity as a people. For eighteen hundred years has this unity existed, and, without the direct interposition of Providence, an we conceive of any concatenation of circumstances which will produce its dissolution? No; the reason is obvious. Their laws constitheir religion; they have emanated from

Thus, if the divine origin of laws have pre-

made them cognizant, but palpable and visible in the divine attributes of their Mikado, who rules and governs them, who never dies. I am afraid that the difficulty, like the Gordian knot, must be severed by the strong hand, or it will remain an enigma until the lapse of ages. What hopes can be entertained, when the same principle of unity has been maintained amid all the various vicissitudes of life in a

wandering and cosmopolite people, unarmed, unprotected, and subject for centuries to bitter and harassing persecutions, of this principle being overcome in a powerful, numerous, and solated nation, free from such temptations and nducements to open a free and cordial intercourse with their fellow-creatures? Happy as people in their seclusion, their very natures are opposed to innovation. They have tried it, and divine authority, the law, could only re-establish what they deemed their former secu-rity and freedom from intestine divisions. They now consider their seclusion eternal, and their lively and playful curiosity in relation to which exist in a system otherwise so perfect in whatever is strange and wonderful, exhibited openly and without reserve, but indicates that settled and uncompromising submission to the law, which forbids a further investigation of the nature of that outer world, and of its denizens, whose peculiarities in customs and science so sparingly reached them.

Thus we may consider the expedition to Jaoan as bent upon an experiment. Let us, therefore, be not too sanguine. There are some problems yet to be solved. The exact ratio between a straight line and an arc, perpetual motion, &c. To these let us add a free intercourse with the unsocial Japanese; or, at least, let us accomplish with them as much as we have done with the above problems-elucidate their relations near enough for practicable purposes, establish kindly relations, and purchase from them an island, as an intermediate point between China and our Pacific possessions, and leave the great problem of their seclusion, as we have been forced to leave those above unsolved.

We may conceive the Japanese government to consist of the Mikado, (or spiritual emperor,) the Tiogoon, (or executive,) and the council. Let us now briefly consider the effects resulting from the action of a government of such anomal ous construction, and trace the various channels liberal in its relations towards themselves and bear upon the people, penetrating the sacredness of privacy, and, like the atmosphere, pervading every recess of life. The law of ceremonial, the Harakiri, and the espial, hampered the Japanese in on every side with restrictions which appeared to have no limits. Thus they became the standard to which every action of life was referable; and, as if aware that the closest circumspection of conduct could not always keep one clear of the dread punishment which followed its infraction, their very children, before arriving at the age of manhood were taught all the mysteries of the Harakiri so that they might not be found unprepared for a proper execution of the dread alternative which they deemed so likely to arise during their course through life; thus, as it were, making a religious ceremonial of the very pun-ishment following the infraction of laws. They were taught the laws and the penalties; and, as a necessary consequence of that knowledge, prepared themselves for the only evasion (self-

olation) of their immutable decrees. Thoroughly initiated in all the mysteries of the Harikiri, and taught to consider that under any circumstances he can by self-immolation avoid the odium of guilt and leave an unsullied name, the Japanese enters upon the duties of life with this resource always in view. If he be a public man, magistrate, or holding any office of responsibility or trust, he is surrounded by the spies of government; his to the executive notice of the slightest infraction of the law. The ceremonial attached to his office he is bound to see enforced in all its ninutiæ, and pay that same deference to it in one of higher authority which he is bound to exact in his own person. If the orders of the government be not carried out by him, if sediion arise within the bounds of his administration, if those under his authority have intercourse with foreigners, if prisoners committed to his charge escape, if any law or order be infringed, the fact alone is considered; and no extenuating circumstances can be pleaded in palliation, not even that of impracticability.

The order thus issued, presupposes the racticability of execution, and to impeach it, would impeach the infallibility of the law-the divine authority of the Mikado. Thus, when he becomes aware of such infringement of the orders he has received, his course is at once taken. Calling around him his relations and friends, he immolates himself to the law. The law is now appeased, and no further conse quences result from his guilt, if guilt it be, and his son probably may enter upon the duties of the office, while the body of his father is yet warm with the lingering glow of life; whereas, had not this prompt and uncompromising submission to the decrees of fate been yielded, the penalties of the law would have been enforced in all their rigour, reaching probably to genera-tions in their terrible and searching responsi-

Can we conceive of men being more completely fettered to the despotism of the law, having been raised for its purchase and the than by these agents, harakiri, espial, and cerecasting, the site for its erection being left at monial, more especially when they are secured by such dread penalties, and have received the Barry is, however, understood to object to the sanction of divine authority. The lion was more securely fettered by the hunter's net than he would have been in an iron cage. The despotism of Dr. Francia was that of minutine: not that of the bold usurper, who revels in the turbulent swell of commotion like a wild beast, but that of a scholastic pedant fettering every motion of the body, every faculty of the mind and sense. Blind, deaf, mute, and motionles men became at his will: vet all these facultie springing into action at his beck. No hestation: spontaneous and uncompromising obedience, or the knife, the bullet, the halter became the penalty. Like the slow and hardly visible agency of water in the abrasion of the globe, acting everywhere simultaneously and unceasing, this fettering of every faculty of the mind and body, by the sleepless presence of agents ever at work, and with one object in view, subdues the mo determined spirit, and bends the proudest in-tellect to humble submission. It is the accumulated force of minutiæ, the unseen agency of microscopic creation, rearing stupendous monu ments from the vast deep—the drop of water wearing away the hardest rock, and in a more extended view demolishing continents. How much more destructive than the terrible volca no, or soul-harrowing earthquake, in all their dread devastation of cities and provinces!

But stranger still, possessing a unity which cannot be broken, this despotism fetters all alike. The Mikado, the Tiogoon, the council-all, every one from the highest to the lowestbow in humble submission to this hydra-head ed monster. The Mikado is so restricted by ceremonial, that he can only be considered state prisoner, born to live and die in perpetu al retirement. It pervades also, the most private relations of his seclusion. It presides at his table, follows him in his restricted walks. clings to his apparel-in fine, deprives him o the use of almost every faculty of mind and body, even in the limited sphere of his incarceration. The Tiogoon likewise is hemmed in by these terrible agents; but, free from the diinity which invests the actions of his superior his responsibility is divested of the ceremonia so irksome to the Mikado. But independen of this, the meanest subject in the land could claim as much exemption as he. Being how ever the highest visible authority, and when not obstructed by the prescribed ceremonial of

served this singular people for centuries sepa- | his station, he can, at times, by his moveme rate and distinct in relations so favorable to impose additional ceremonial upon others, his their amalgamation with the rest of mankind, subordinates; and, as I have remarked before, what hopes can be entertained of intercourse this carried ruin even to the richest and mos-

powerful. The council, whose peculiar powers and sphere of action, I have commented upon, were alike bound by these restrictions. But, independent of these, there are the nobles or princes, who require a brief notice. These, previous to the usurpation of authority by the Tiogoon, were tributaries of the Mikado, who then reigned, both the temporal and spiritual head of the empire; but after the successful usurpation of the first Tiogoon they were not suffered to remain in their former state of independence. They were forced to send their children to the court of the Tiogoon as hostages, and, being surrounded with spies in their territories, and hampered with restrictions when beyond their limits, they became but prisoners at large; and though possessing some show of independence and authority, yet when growing powerful, or becoming in the slightest degree refractory to the humiliations exacted of them, a notice from the Tiogoon of an intended visit became a rock of ruin, which could not be avoided.

To these princes of the empire, however, we must look for the only elements of discord every detail; and the reason is obvious. They are the only ones who would gain by the dis solution of laws, which in their action fettered their power, yet gave them no guaranty of any one of the objects which a wise government would have labored to secure. We may look upon this body of men as under the influence of, and subject in a great measure to, the au-thority of the established laws; yet they were not parties in the political contract which was framed for them. These laws, bearing equally upon all the rest of the empire, did not invade, with their subtle and searching responsibility, the bounds of their provinces; and, though subject to ceremonial and espial in all their rigor, the shadow of authority was still left them, in their freedom from direct responsibility in the administration of their territories Yet even this was restricted by the hostages they were forced to yield to the Tiogoon; and when taken in consideration with espial and ceremonial, it is hardly conceivable how they could exercise any authority whatever. But still, not being parties to the contract of gov-ernment, losing all and gaining nothing, they exist in the empire the nucleus of a party ever ready to abolish the present state of affairs, and to rear upon their ruins a superstructure more through which these principles were brought to the Mikado, whom alone they acknowledge as

their emperor, both spiritual and temporal.

Such a germ of discord implanted in the neart's core of this monster despotism, may in time gradually spread and consume it. If it do not, it holds otherwise within itself a principle of unity which time will only strengthen, and the sealed records of Japan will rest on the pages of history an unopened and unsolved nigma to the searching curiosity of man.

SPEECH OF JUDGE DOUGLAS. The Keystone (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania) thus expresses itself in regard to the Nebraska

"Judge Douglas's speech on the territorial bill, before the United States Senate, we republish to-day with unreserved endorsement, and commend it to attentive perusal. Why the repeal of the Missouri compromise section, or the passage of any law conferring upon the citizens of Territories those rights of property which cannot be constitutionally withheld, and which are possessed by the people of all the States, should be resisted, is a marvel, the explanation of which can only be found in the breasts of crafty unscrupulous demagogues. A majority of the people of any State can establish or abolish slavery whenever they choose to do so, and no State can be admitted into the Union izens of th not divested of their rights of property by removing into the Territories, where they are as well qualified to determine the regulations that are just and expedient as they are before their removal. Congress has no power over the subject of slavery in the States or Territories, and the sooner this is decisively expressed and settled, the sooner will the nation be rid of a favorite ammunition of demagogues, used for periodical agitations, which invariably end in unmitigated evil."

STATUE OF RICHARD COUR DE LION IN PA-LACE-YARD .- Yesterday the equestrian statue Richard Cœur de Lion, which attracted so much attention and admiration at the great exhibition of 1851, by Baron Marachotti, was raised on the temporary pedestal erected in Palace-yard, immediately facing the entrance to Westminster hall, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. From the colossal proportions of the statue, it was necessary to mploy a great number of workmen, as also the erection of enormous triangular shears and windlass, by means of which the heavy portions were raised, the minor proportions being separately raised and placed in their proper positions, without any accident. The erection of the statue is only temporary, for the purpose of trying its effect and harmony with the new palace at Westminster, the site at present proproposed. It is, however, well known that the statue is only the model of one to be cast in bronze, a subscription to the extent of £4,000 casting, the site for its erection being left at of the general architecture of the palace, but more particularly with the screen to be erected in front of Westminster hall.

[London Chroniele. One pound of rosin melted together with four ounces of pitch, and the mixture thickened with brickdust, makes a valuable cement for turners.

A Yankee has invented yellow specto cles, for making lard look like butter. are a great saving in expense, as lard eaten with these spectacles on tastes very much the same as stewed oil.

More fortunes have been made by industry, honesty, and liberal advertising than in any other way.

The Marriage of Sir John Smith Not a sigh was heard, nor a funeral note, As the man to his bridal we hurried; Not a woman discharged her farewell groan On the spot where the fellow was married

On the spot where the fellow was married.
We married him just about eight at night,
Our faces paler turning,
By the struggling moonbeam's misty light,
And the gas-lamp's steady burning.
No useless watch-chain covered his vest,
Nor over-dressed we found him;
But he looked like a gentleman wearing his best,
With a few of his friends ground him.
Few and short were the things we said

Few and short were the things we said, And we spoke not a word of sorrow. But we sileutly gazed on the man that was wed, And we bitterly thought of the morrow. We thought, as we silently stood about,

With spite and anger dying,

With spite and anger dying,

How the merest stranger had cut us out,

With only half our trying.

Lightly we'll talk of the fellow that's gone,

And oft for the past upbraid him;

But little he'll reck if we let him live on

In the house where his wife conveyed his

But little he'll reck if we let him live on
In the house where his wife conveyed him.
But our heavy tosk at-length was done.
When the clock struck the hour for retiring;
And we heard the spiteful squib and pun
The girls were sullenly firing.
Slowly and sadly we turned to go,
We had struggled, and we were human;
We shed not a tear, and we spoke not our woe
But we left him alone with his woman.